September 13, 2004

Joel A. Taubenblatt
Chief, Broadband Division
Wireless Telecommunications Bureau
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th St., SW
Washington, DC 20554

Re: Nextel Wireless Broadband Trial
Docket No. 04-163, Wireless Broadband Access Task Force

Dear Mr. Taubenblatt:

Thank you and your staff for taking the time to participate in a demonstration of Nextel Wireless Broadband in Raleigh, North Carolina. We would like to take this opportunity to recap some highlights of the Nextel Wireless Broadband Trial offering.

Nextel began its trial in the Research Triangle area of North Carolina in February of this year. Broadband coverage in Research Triangle since the trial's inception has more than doubled to 1,300 square miles. Nextel is testing this broadband service to better understand market demand and evaluate usage behavior and customers' willingness to pay, as well as to track real-world performance such as scalability relative to other high-speed wireless data services.

Beginning April 14, 2004, Nextel Wireless Broadband began accepting paying customers. Prior to April, the trial was limited to a test group that included local employees of Nextel, Cisco Systems, Nortel Networks, IBM as well as non-business customers. The trial currently includes more than 2,000 users and is scheduled to run until June 2005. Nextel is in the process of evaluating the test results of the trial to determine the future of the service; Nextel has not disclosed exact criteria for the expansion or continuation of the service. If the service is continued, trial participants will be given the option to remain on the service.

As we demonstrated, Nextel Wireless Broadband service offers typical downlink speeds of up to 1.5 megabits per second (mbps) with burst rates of up to 2.7 mbps. Typical uplink speeds are up to 375 kilobits per second (kbps) with burst rates of up to 750 kbps. Just as impressively, typical latency rates are only between 50 and 100 milliseconds to servers on the Internet, maximizing the results of real-time applications such as multimedia conferencing and online gaming.

Customers of Nextel Wireless Broadband can use the service in one of two ways. A customer can access the service through a laptop or personal digital assistant (PDA) using a PC card. The PC card is inserted into the PCMCIA Type II card slot on the user's computer. For desktop computers, users receive a wireless modem with an antenna that has an Ethernet (RJ-45) and USB port adapter. Nextel's modem has an antenna similar to that of the PC card. The PC card and modems are built for Nextel by Flarion Technologies, Inc.

Nextel Wireless Broadband service uses Flarion Technologies' FLASH-OFDM (Fast Low-latency Access with Seamless Handoff) - (Orthogonal Frequency Division Multiplexing) technology. FLASH-OFDM is an innovative air-interface technology designed for the delivery of advanced Internet services in the mobile environment. As its name suggests, the technology is based on the OFDM airlink, a wireless access method that combines the attributes of two other technologies – Time Division Multiple Access (TDMA) and Frequency Division Multiplexing (FDM) – to address the unique demands posed by mobile users of broadband data and packetized voice applications.

Unlike one competing technology, 802.16a (also called Wi-Max), FLASH-OFDM supports mobile and fixed users at 200 kilobits per second and up to 3 megabits per second, respectively. The IEEE's 802.16d specification adds mobile support, but it has not been ratified by the IEEE. Although FLASH-OFDM is proprietary, Flarion is working closely with the IEEE on the standards group's 802.20 Mobile Broadband Wireless Access specification. For more information, visit: http://www.flarion.com/products/default.asp.

To provide broadband service in the Raleigh test bed, Nextel Wireless Broadband is currently using leased spectrum in the 1.9 GHz (PCS) band.

It is important to note that Nextel has not announced any plans of a decision for its broadband technology. While FLASH-OFDM is the first technology to move to a public trial, Nextel continues to evaluate many broadband solutions in order to best meet the needs of our customers. Nextel is exploring alternatives such as CDMA2000 EV/DO (Evolution-Data Only) in its labs.

We welcome whatever questions you might have. Please do not hesitate to call Jared at 703-433-8368 or me at 703-433-8525.

Sincerely,

/s/ Trey Hanbury

Trey Hanbury
Jared M. Carlson
Nextel Communications